

MESSAGE, MANIPULATION AND TRACTION—Edited by Sidney Licht, M.D., Honorary Member, British Association of Physical Medicine, Danish Society of Physical Medicine, and the French National Society of Physical Medicine, Elizabeth Licht, Publisher, 360 Fountain Street, New Haven, Conn., 1960. 275 pages, \$10.00.

This is a continuation of the series of books by this editor, constituting Volume V of a Physical Medicine Library. Three aspects are discussed in detail, consisting of massage, manipulation, and traction. These three modalities are used by cultists and very little is taught to the physician regarding their judicious application.

Besides the classical massage technique of stroking, kneading, and percussion, several new techniques, used mainly in Europe, are presented. An entirely new form of massage, called "connective tissue massage," is presented for the first time in American literature. It is used for the relief of pain through the mediation of pain reflex phenomena. This reviewer is inclined to agree with the publisher's statement that "some massage practices are so new that by the time you read this book they may have been abandoned." However, it is interesting to know what others are doing elsewhere. Another interesting form of massage treatment is the term "syncardial massage," in which pneumatic cuffs are attached to the calf group and inflated in a rhythm to correspond with the pulse wave coming from the heart. The theory being that as the pulse wave travels down the artery it is given an extra pumping action and in this way provides greater arterial pressure for use in arteriosclerotic conditions in the lower extremities. The theory appears to be sound but no laboratory evidence is cited of its clinical value.

Under manipulation, maneuvers are shown for manipulating both the spine and lower extremities. This aspect is written by English physicians and this reviewer is not sure of their accepted status even in England. Certainly, one cannot agree with the broad statements of some of the chapters, e.g., "It is possible by these means to reduce a nuclear protrusion."

The section on traction shows all of the routine methods for giving traction both to the cervical and spinal areas. Actually, the chapters are a resume of literature on the use of traction in clinical conditions. The great disparity between various publishers of articles is emphasized and this reviewer is left with the impression that each clinician will have to form his own opinion and proceed with it.

This reviewer agrees with the statement of the editor that this material was presented in the belief that the more that is published about questionable procedures the sooner we may learn what is worth continued usage. Certainly, there are indications for massage and manipulation and traction, and those men interested in orthopedics and physical medicine could read this book with profit.

S. MALVERN DORINSON, M.D.

* * *

PSYCHOANALYSIS OF TODAY—S. Nacht. American Adaptation Prepared by Ruth Emma Roman. Grune & Stratton, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, New York, 1959. 228 pages, \$5.75.

Psychoanalysis of Today, according to the translator, Ruth E. Roman, is a condensation of a collection of studies published under the direction of Dr. S. Nacht by the "Bibliothèque De L'Institut de Psychoanalyse de Paris."

The first chapter, by S. Nacht and S. Lebovici, deals with the indications and contraindications for psychoanalysis of adults. Quite appropriately, careful weighing of each case is urged with psychoanalysis recommended only if it can definitely be expected to give better results than a simpler form of therapy and if it is felt that the end result will justify so protracted a treatment. It is emphasized that to advise a patient for or against psychoanalysis is a serious

decision because it may shape the future life of the person as well as that of his family. Clinical diagnosis is not the only factor on which a decision must be based. The strength of the instinctual forces and of the ego are important elements to be considered in making the decision.

In a chapter "Clinical Analysis" by M. Bouvet, the contributions of psychoanalysis to clinical practice are comprehensively reviewed. Despite the attempt of the author to be as clinical as possible and to avoid technical psychoanalytic formulations, the psychopathologic and psychodynamic formulations, and especially the description of the structure of the ego and its object relationships in various types of psychiatric disorders, are quite complex. They will not be understood by the average physician.

S. Nacht in a chapter on "Psychoanalytic Therapy" gives an excellent, clear summary of the history, development, principles, and technique of psychoanalysis.

The chapter on "Psychoanalysis of Children" by S. Lebovici, et al., is written in such technical psychoanalytic language (and concept) as to be practically unintelligible to the pediatrician and general practitioner. Nor will it be very meaningful to the child psychiatrist who has not had the benefit of psychoanalytic training. The authors do, however, point out the differences in the nature and manifestations of psychiatric problems in children, as compared to adults.

R. Held in a chapter entitled "Psychoanalysis and Medicine" exemplifies by numerous brief case summaries, the variety of attitudes and relationships that exist between the psychoanalyst and his medical colleagues—varying from the hostile and skeptical to the friendly and accepting. He describes the wide variation in cases that are referred and the problems that arise from the methods of referral, and makes a good point for the importance of the analyst being a physician, and the physician being in part a psychiatrist.

Other chapters deal with, but do not answer, questions concerning the origin of deviations in behavior, the importance of constitutional and environmental factors as observed in infant development and the relationship of psychoanalysis to sociology. P. C. Racamier has written an excellent review of the psychoanalytic therapy of the psychoses.

Like so many books that consist of a collection of individual contributions, there is considerable unevenness in style, clarity and worthwhileness from chapter to chapter. The book will not interest the general practitioner and will appeal to only selected psychiatrists and psychoanalysts.

NORMAN Q. BRILL, M.D.

* * *

CIBA FOUNDATION STUDY GROUP NO. 3—CANCER OF THE CERVIX (Diagnosis of Early Forms), in honour of Prof. Dr. C. Kaufmann. Editors for the Ciba Foundation—G. E. W. Wolstenholme, O.B.E., M.A., M.B., M.R.C.P., and Maeve O'Connor, B.A. Little, Brown and Company, Boston, Mass., 1959. 114 pages, with 27 illustrations, \$2.50.

This little book is a collection of seven papers presented at a one-day conference held in London in May 1959 under the auspices of the Ciba Foundation. Various aspects, both morphological and chemical, of the problem of early diagnosis of cervical cancer are presented, and each essay is followed by a verbatim report of the discussion offered by members of the study group. Twenty-three participants are listed, including two from the United States. Since it is impossible to present a coherent summary of such diverse material in a few sentences, it is urged that every pathologist and gynecologist with an active interest in cervical cancer read the book himself. Some of the personal exchanges of viewpoints in the discussion sections are especially fascinating, and in themselves are well worth the very modest investment demanded by the publisher.

C. E. McLENNAN, M.D.